

## Chair's report January 10, 2017

### Main Street

- there has been some concern expressed re the incomplete bike lanes south of Clegg
- a temporary lane "island" has been created on Main St just to the north of Springhurst to mitigate the attempt by some motorists to use the left south bound lane to continue heading south (rather than turning left on to Oblate)

### Regional's Greystone Village

- of note to our community, the Rideau River pathway has now reopened

### R4 Zoning Review

- I submitted comments to the city on behalf of the OOECA on Monday, January 2; these comments have now been posted on the planning page of our web-site: see <http://www.ottawaeast.ca/files/2016/coach-houses-planning-committee.pdf>
- the Federation of Citizens' Association (FCA) has set up a R4 Review Focus Group; the first meeting is scheduled for January 5
- although no one from OOE was available to attend this meeting, representatives from a number of community associations were expected (including the Glebe, Old Ottawa South, Carlington Community Association, and the Friends of James and Bay)

### Children's garden soil contamination

- as promised at our last Board meeting, additional information has now been posted on our Councillor's web-site
- we have included information plus a link to this web -site on our own web-page <http://www.ottawaeast.ca>

### Crows in our neighbourhood

- I received an e-mail in December from an OOE resident who was concerned about the influx of crows into our neighbourhood
- I forwarded this concern to our Councillor's office; he subsequently provided quite detailed information that he had obtained from a city of Ottawa staff biologist, Ottawa Public Health and a bird expert citizen
- his key take aways were:

- "1. Yes, crows have moved in to your neighbourhood in large number, and mine in Old Ottawa South;
2. This is fairly normal behaviour;
3. Some health risks do exist, but are fairly minimal; and
4. Techniques to get rid of them are limited, expensive and will just send them to other areas, which is what will happen in the spring regardless.

Based on all of this, I recommend patience and letting nature take its course. I will drop by to observe some time soon, although I am very familiar with them in the Riverside Drive/Billings Bridge/Old Ottawa South area, where they are common."

### 10th Capital Ward Councillor's Cup

- This year's cup will be held on Saturday January 28, 9-noon(ish) at Windsor Park (OOS is host this year)
- John Dance is once again helping to get our OOE team together

### Healthy Transportation Coalition request

- we received a request on December 20 from The **Healthy Transportation Coalition** to participate and get involved in their upcoming event on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 titled **Road User Fees: Key to Sustainable**

### Urban Transportation.

"We believe the time is ripe to advance the debate on this topic. You may remember that in March 2016, a motion endorsing the need for a study of the causes of congestion and possible solutions was passed by the City of Ottawa's Transportation Committee, though subsequently defeated by City Council. Even though we lost that battle, there are many councillors who support this idea and are not giving up on it. We believe many

community members and organizations are not going to give up either. In addition, the mayor of Toronto, John Tory, recently endorsed the use of road tolls on two major highways in that city.

With momentum being generated in Toronto, the most populated city in Canada, we feel now is the time to rekindle the conversation in Ottawa. Are you interested? If you are and are wondering how you can contribute, here is a short list of ways we are asking you to help:

- spread the word/send out emails inviting your members/supporters to the event on March 28, 2017
- help us fund the educational event (in the form of panel discussion, question and answer session)
- participate in the creation of a short video (1 minute or so) explaining why your organization supports road user fees
- be listed as one of the event co-organizers, sponsors
- briefly meet with us prior to the event
- participate in planning/giving us feedback"